

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 00904 171202Z

73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 NIC-01

DRC-01 /168 W

----- 127590

R 171100Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4957

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GB, UR

SUBJ: GOG RECOGNIZES SOVIET UNION

1. GOG PUBLISHED JOINT COMMUNIQUE OCTOBER 15  
ANNOUNCING DECISION TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS  
AND EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS WITH SOVIET UNION.

2. COMMUNIQUE SAID JOINT DECISION MADE IN RESPONSE  
TO MUTUAL DESIRE TO DEVELOP FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND  
COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. TWO GOVERNMENTS  
PLEDGE THEMSELVES TO PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL  
COEXISTENCE, RESPECT FOR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY,  
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, EQUAL RIGHTS, AND NON-  
INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. TWO  
COUNTRIES ALSO EXPRESS DETERMINATION TO CONTRIBUTE  
TO REINFORCEMENT OF WORLD PEACE AND SECURITY AS  
WELL AS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION.

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PAGE 02 LIBREV 00904 171202Z

3. SEMI-OFFICIAL GABON MATIN IN EDITORIAL

OCTOBER 16 "DIPLOMACY TOWARD ALL POINTS OF THE COMPASS" CHARACTERIZED ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH USSR AS AKING CONCRETE THE WILL OF PRESIDENT BONGO TO ENLARGE THE CIRCLE OF GABON'S FRIENDS. GABON MATIN HASTENED TO ADD THAT RECOGNITION OF MARXIST-LENINIST REGIME DOES NOT MEAN FOR "OTHER MISSIONS IN GABON" THAT RUSSIANS WILL IMPOSE THEIR IDEALS ON GABON. GABON MATIN ALSO CONCERNED GIVE ASSURANCES ON ECONOMIC LEVEL BY RECALLING OCTOBER 13 MEETING OF PRESIDENT BONGO WITH LOCAL BUSINESSMEN IN WHICH HE REASSERTED HIS DETERMINATION TO HAVE GABON FOLLOW A POLICY OF DIRECTED AND PLANNED ECONOMIC LIBERALISM. EDITORIAL CLOSED WITH WHAT HAS BECOME RALLYING CRY OF GABONESE FOREIGN POLICY THAT COUNTRY IS NEITHER TO THE LEFT NOR TO THE RIGHT BUT ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD.

4. IN ANNOUNCING ASSUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOVIET'S GOG ALSO RECALLED IT HAD EARLIER GRANTED DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND DE JURE RECOGNITION TO PRG.

MCKESSON

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## Message Attributes

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